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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

24 FEB 1993

THE SECRETARY - ROOM 222

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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APR - 6 1993

Honorable Patty Murray  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Murray:

This is in reply to your letter of February 3, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

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We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994. We urge your

# Congressional

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PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,  
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM  
02/11/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO. DATE RECEIVED DATE OF CORRESP DATE DUE DATE DUE CIA (957)

PATTY MURRAY  
WASHINGTON

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4704

PRB  
92-235  
543

February 3, 1993

Steve Klitzman, Associate Director  
Office of Legislative Affairs  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St. NW  
Washington D.C. 20554

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Dear Mr. Klitzman,

I wish to refer a matter to your attention. Over the past week I have received many letters from constituents in Washington State who operate radio controlled airplanes and boats. People who enjoy this hobby express concerns regarding a FCC proposal to decrease present frequency separation (NPRM-PR Docket 92-235).

Because I have received many letters regarding this proposal, I have enclosed copies of two letters representative of the concerns of radio controlled airplane controllers. I would appreciate it if you could address their inquiries concerning Docket 92-235.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

*Patty Murray*

Patty Murray  
United States Senator

PM:lh

PATTY MURRAY  
WASHINGTON  
(202) 224-2621  
FAX: 224-0238

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4704



DATE: 2/18/93  
TO: FCC  
ATTN: Diane Atkinson  
FAX#: 632-7092  
FROM: Laura Hewitt  
PHONE: 224-2339

PAGES SENT (including cover sheet): \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact our office if you are missing all or part of this transmission.

The Honorable Patty Murray  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20501

1993 FEB 17 AM 10:30

I am very concerned about the proposed rules that are under consideration by the Federal Communication Commission, PR Docket 92-235. If passed, it would greatly reduce the usable frequencies for flying radio controlled aircraft. Our radio frequencies are in the 72 & 76 M.H.Z. band.

This band is primarily used for private land mobile use. The FCC has already moved our frequencies on January 1, 1991, requiring us to purchase new radios to meet FCC specifications. Land base mobile use is between these frequencies, and we do not conflict with each other.

If PR Docket 92-235 is passed, mobile frequencies will be interfering with our radio control frequencies. Due to the tolerances allowed, mobile frequencies will overlap ours.

I fly radio control airplanes up to 10 feet wing span, weighing as much as 30 pounds, at speeds of around 120 miles per hour. The new frequencies of a mobil unit coming close by when we are flying, would cause complete loss of control of our R/C airplane. That would cause it to crash, destroying the aircraft, not to mention the danger of property damage or even injury, or death, to anyone in the area. These aircraft are worth upwards of \$1000.

I am retired and enjoy many hours of building, and flying model radio controlled aircraft. I am a member of the Spokane R/C Fliers Club, whos members also enjoy building and flying these aircraft.

Since I am retired, I simply can't afford to buy new radios again. A simple 4 channel radio retails for \$250. At the present, I have 5 radios from 4 channel to 8 channel, and I use all of them. It would cost me \$1909.75 to replace them. And so, please vote 'NO' on PR Docket 92-235.....

Thank you..



Ronald E. Dutton

Box 4

Lind, Wa. 99341

1119 S. W. 333rd St.  
Federal Way, Wa 98023  
February 4, 1993

The Honorable Patty Murray  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Murray:

Congratulations on your new position. It is very exciting to have a woman in our state on the Senate. I am writing to you because I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is **PR Docket 92-235**. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the number of usable frequencies currently assigned for recreational model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model airplanes.

My husband and I build and fly radio controlled gliders. We derive many hours of pleasure from this hobby. In addition, it is a great get-away from a very hectic work schedule. I am an active competitor in local, national and international events. I also am President of The Northwest Soaring Society, a group of 125 flyers who collectively strive to facilitate consistent growth in the art of design, construction and flying of radio controlled soaring planes and among other things, honor pilots who have consistently demonstrated their soaring ability. We encourage and promote young people in this sport-hobby; thereby keeping them away from drugs and alcohol. This hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry. This is a family oriented hobby.

The FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies. Presently, there are approximately 50 frequencies that are available for radio control of model airplanes and if the FCC rules in favor of **PR Docket 92-235**, I am told that only 19 frequencies will be